

Stinger battery teams up with Marines from Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii during Exercise Tandem Thrust to provide air defense. See story and photos on page 12.



June 15, 2001

Camp Smedley D. Butler, Okinawa, Japan

www.okinawa.usmc.mil

INSIDE

NEWS

Corpsmen complete their third win at EMT Rodeos

Sailors participating in the recent three-day Emergency Medical Technician Rodeo tower over the six other competing teams to emerge first-place winners for their third year in a row.

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NEWS

Leptospirosis returns to area during summer heat

Health officials remind community of the waterborne disease that was previously detected to Okinawa, measures to prevent infection from the disease and the possible symptoms.

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FEATURE

Seabee's travel from port to port building relations

Engineers, electricians and steelworkers, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion-4 spends many months away from home, share each other's work load and overcome language barriers to build a better tomorrow.

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SPORTS

Field meets increase team spirit between Marines

Two battalions recently conduct their own field meet for Marines to boost morale and give Marines an opportunity for personnel that usually work apart from the battalion to work together.

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LEISURE

Restaurant puts customer into the chef's hot kitchen

Steak house provides qualified and entertaining chefs to serve up a variety of top-grade steak and seafood meals prepared in front of the customers for reasonable prices.

see page 17 for more

Marine Corps announces partnership with NHRA

MCRC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

QUANTICO, Va. — Marine Corps Recruiting Command and Larry Nance Racing announced today the formation of a marketing partnership that will expand the Corps' recruiting efforts in motorsports to include the National Hot Rod Association.

The addition of Larry Nance and his NHRA Pro Stock entry is a complimentary program to the Corps' National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing Busch Grand National effort with Team Rensi Motorsports' No. 25 car driven by rookie David Donohue, according to SSgt Bruce Katz, Advertising Chief, MCRC.

"Larry Nance is an icon in his own right," SSgt Katz explained.

Nance is best known for his professional basketball career and accomplishments in the National Basketball Association. During his career Nance had several notable achievements, including being the sport's leading shot-blocking forward, a three-time NBA All Star, and beating Julius "Dr. J" Erving in the first NBA Slam Dunk Competition in 1984.

While building a successful career in basketball, Nance began pursuing his goal of racing in the NHRA. With only limited periods of time available during the hectic NBA season schedule, Nance's track appearances were generally relegated to basketball's off-season.

"Larry Nance came to the Marine Corps looking to become a marketing partner. Larry and the Marine Corps share a common set of values and characteristics that made us a natural fit. He is very family-oriented, volunteers his time in his community, and is involved in many youth activities that promote the Marine Corps' values of honor, courage and commitment," said SSgt Katz.

"Joining forces with the Marine Corps will benefit both of us," said Maj Robert L. Winchester, Marine Corps Recruiting Command. "Being associated with the Marine Corps will automatically give him the benefit of 200,000 fans."

The Army is spending a total of \$6 million with NHRA and the Air Force is spending \$2.5 million in NASCAR's Winston Cup Series, according to SSgt Katz. In com-



COURTESY PHOTO

Ricky Rudd, driver of the No. 28 Texaco/Havoline Ford Taurus, paired up with the United States Marine Corps to drive this car in a special NASCAR salute to the Armed Forces on Memorial Day in Charlotte, N.C. In the NHRA, Larry Nance is joining Team Marines Racing with his Pro Stock entry in a marketing partnership with the Marine Corps Recruiting Command.

parison, the Marine Corps' motorsports program budget is \$1.5 million. Larry Nance Racing is a marketing partner and is not financially funded by the Marine Corps' budget.

"Our research shows that motorsports are climbing in popularity with our target audiences," said SSgt Katz. "It was no surprise to me to see the Army and the Air Force enter into the motorsports venue. The other services were watching us closely, and shortly after the Team Marines Racing program debut, they began their search to take advantage of the growing audiences in motorsports."

Former Marine Rick Rathbun started the Team Marines Racing program. Rathbun approached the Marine Corps with a proposal to partner in NASCAR's Busch Grand National Series in June 1999. In November 1999, the partnership was announced and featured Hank Parker Jr. as the driver of the BGN No. 53 Team Marines Racing car.

"Since our start in NASCAR, we have been approached by every form of motor sport trying to include the Marine Corps in its series or racing league," said SSgt Katz. "Even Marines who drive stock cars on local dirt tracks were trying to attract us as a sponsor. With funding resources being limited, we couldn't afford any of them. Still, people were volunteering to

carry our colors and be part of the Team Marines Racing family."

SSgt Katz attributes the overwhelming response to Team Marines Racing to its founding organization: the Marine Corps.

"For those who are or have been Marines, they understand the pride and respect we have for our organization. The esteem and gratification that comes from holding the title Marine is something no leatherneck forgets. This is why so many Marines and friends of the Corps have come forward to offer their support for Marine Corps recruiting and Team Marines Racing. The fact that so many people are willing to provide us this type of support without any direct compensation speaks highly of the Marine Corps and those who join our racing family."

The Team Marines Racing family was started in order to assemble all those who desired to give something back to the Corps through their various forms of racing, according to SSgt Katz. Although there is no financial support to these volunteers, MCRC has been able to outfit teams with recruiting materials and some promotional items.

Larry Nance is expected to make his first Team Marines Racing appearance at the NHRA scheduled events June 14 in Columbus, Ohio.

FORECAST



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PO2 John Huffaker, USNH Team Member, carries out a victim as part of the civilian mass casualty drill during the 2001 EMT Rodeo. The USNH team placed first in the competition for the third year straight.



COURTESY PHOTO
PO3 Leander Beams, USNH Team Member, shows the wear and tear the competitions put on the Sailors bodies. The members of the USNH team endured three rigorous days of competition to retain the championship.

Medical technicians test their skills

U.S. Naval Hospital corpsmen remain champions of EMT Rodeo

PFC DAMIAN MCGEE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP LESTER — Sailors at U.S. Naval Hospital, Okinawa placed first for the third year in a row in the Annual Emergency Medical Technician Rodeo at Misawa Air Base May 20.

The rodeo is a three-day event in which corpsmen demonstrate their ability to perform their jobs and accomplish their missions, regardless of the circumstances or obstacles they may face in a real-

life situation.

The hospital team, consisting of five primary members and one alternate, beat out six other teams with the nearest opponent 110 points away.

Although the team had won the competition previously, the members of the hospital team went to the competition as if it was their first time.

"There's a lot of pressure when you return to a competition as the previous year's champion," said CPO Mark Kane, Team Coach. "Instead of acting like returning champions, we went in there hungry like it was our first time."

Throughout the competition, the teams were tested on their ability to provide medical attention and accomplish their mission as corpsmen in vari-

ous environments. The challenges included a 5k team run, two mass casualty drills, a night land navigation course, a water rescue and a litter obstacle race.

While the team didn't place first in every event, a first-place victory in two events and second in the other four was enough for the group to edge out the other teams and take the overall victory — a victory the team credits partly to its daily encounters with Marines.

"For the most part, the playing field was level since all the teams were able to see the grading sheets before the competition," CPO Kane said. "We, however, had a slight advantage because of our continued training with the Fleet Marine Force."

Although the team practiced three times a week on its own time to achieve the victory, the members of the team said they hope others see more than a trophy as a result of the win. It was a clear reflection of the type of medical attention these corpsmen are capable of providing.

"Our performance puts confidence in the Emergency Medical System here and in the people on the island," said PO2 John Huffaker, Team Member. "With our victory, service members and their families should be able to rest assured knowing that they're receiving the best pre-hospital care in the Pacific."

The members of the hospital team were CPO Kane, PO2 John Huffaker, PO2 Jeffrey George, PO2 Jamison Hubbuch, PO3 Leander Beams, and Seaman Tracey Brown. PO3 Jon Farrow was the alternate.

U.S. Savings Bonds make saving money easier, safer for service members

CPL CHAD SWAIM
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — For Marines who are looking for a way to start saving money, the answer may be as easy as buying U.S. Savings Bonds.

Through the U.S. Savings Bonds Payroll Savings Plan, service members can have savings bonds purchased automatically every month through an allotment from their paycheck.

"By contacting their unit savings bond representative, Marines will be able to get the forms they need to start receiving EE or I Bonds," said 1stLt Neil A. Peterson, Savings Bond Officer, Marine Corps Base.

Before purchasing bonds, Marines may want to find out more information on the different types offered.

"The EE Bonds are sold at half of their face value and earn rates based on five-year treasury securities,

whereas I Bonds are sold at face value and offer a rate of return above inflation," 1stLt Peterson said.

Savings bonds are also a safe means for service members to invest their money. Every bond is registered, so if a bond becomes damaged, lost or stolen, the treasury can replace it.

"Unlike the stock market, savings bonds are backed by the U.S. government," 1stLt Peterson said. "You know exactly what you are going to get, you know it's a guaranteed minimum rate, and you know you are going to get a certain value of return once a bond reaches maturity."

Service members who use the Safekeeping option with the Payroll Savings Plan have even less to worry about.

"With Safekeeping, the Defense Financing and Accounting Service electronically maintains the bonds issued to service members," 1stLt Peterson said. "When needed, a service member can

request his or her bonds, and they will be printed and sent out immediately."

Another benefit of purchasing savings bonds is the tax advantages of the interest the bonds earn.

"The interest earned on savings bonds is exempt from all state and local income taxes," 1stLt Peterson said. "Federal income taxes are deferred until the bonds reach final maturity or are redeemed."

The Payroll Savings Plan also allows service members who might not have that much free cash at the end of the month the ability to buy bonds.

"The lowest priced bond offered in the program is \$50," 1stLt Peterson said. "The service member can have an allotment for \$5, \$6.25, \$10, \$12.50, \$25 or \$50. The amounts vary according to the cost of the bonds."

However, there are limits on how much can be spent on savings bonds.

"The EE Bonds are limited to

\$15,000, and as much as \$30,000 worth of I bonds can be purchased per year," 1stLt Peterson said.

When service members decide to cash in their bonds, there are some rules that apply and some considerations to be made.

"EE and I Bonds can't be cashed in until they are six months old. If they are cashed before they are five years old, the owner will be penalized the interest the bond earned in the last three months," 1stLt Peterson said. "After 30 years the bonds stop earning interest."

"U.S. savings bonds are a safe, easy way to save money and a solid addition to a Marine's investment portfolio," 1stLt Peterson said. "Marines can be one of more than 55 million people who take advantage of savings bonds' competitive rates if they start investing today."

For more information about U.S. savings bonds, visit www.savingsbonds.gov.



SGT ROBERT J. ANGUS

Faithful service

Katsutoshi Nagamine, an Operations and Training Branch Employee, Marine Corps Base, receives his retirement certificate from BGen Willie J. Williams, Commanding General, MCB, during a retirement ceremony at the Butler Officers' Club on Camp Foster June 7. Thirty-eight employees representing more than 1,100 combined years of service were recognized for their diligence, loyalty, perseverance and hard work during the ceremony. "As we celebrate your retirement, each of you truly deserves to be recognized for the faithful and dedicated service that you have performed for Camp Butler and U.S. Forces, Japan throughout your employment," BGen Williams said. "I am pleased to have had each of you as a member of the Camp Butler civilian workforce, and I know that you will be missed by many."

Waterborne disease season returns

LCPL KEITH R. MEIKLE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP LESTER — Many campers, hikers and swimmers go outdoors during the summer, but there are certain things they need to know to explore the environment safely.

May through September is the peak season for leptospirosis, a waterborne disease that has previously been detected on Okinawa.

"Leptospirosis is a disease caused by an organism that is released in the urine of infected domestic and wild animals," said CDR William J. Upham, Director of Community Health Services, U.S. Naval Hospital, Okinawa.

Some pigs, wild rodents, dogs, cattle and mongoose on the island carry this disease, according to CDR Upham.

"Animals throughout Okinawa are tested for the disease to be able to locate possible contaminated sites," said LTJG Verna E. Fajardo, Environmental Health Officer, USNH.

Although animals are the carriers of the disease, it is usually transmitted through water or vegetation, according to LTJG Fajardo.

"(People) should avoid swampy and heavily vegetated areas to reduce exposure to contaminated soil and water," LTJG Fajardo said. "Leptospirosis has been detected in animals in the northern and central train-

ing areas, along with Hiji and Aha Falls areas. These areas should be avoided."

The disease is transmitted by direct skin contact with infected water or soil through cuts, abrasions and mucous membranes, such as the lining of the mouth.

"Anyone in contact with contaminated areas can contract the disease," LTJG Fajardo said. "That is why it is important to stay away from the areas as much as possible."

Although the disease is not fatal, symptoms include sudden onset of fever, headache, chills and severe muscle pains in the legs.

To reduce the chance of contracting this disease, there are treatments that can be prescribed prior to possible exposure. There are also treatments for those who have previously been exposed.

"Doxycycline has been shown effective in preventing leptospirosis when (victims and potential victims are) given an oral dose of 200 mg weekly," CDR Upham said.

The hospital's greatest tool in preventing leptospirosis and increasing awareness about the disease is education. However, the best thing that has been on the hospital's side is luck, according to LTJG Fajardo.

"Luckily, there haven't been any cases in the past year," LTJG Fajardo said. "Prevention is the key, and knowledge (about leptospirosis) is power."

For more information, contact LTJG Fajardo at 643-7808.

Assistance available for moving families

CPL CHAD SWAIM
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — The Personal Services Center here can help incoming and outgoing single and accompanied service members make their Permanent Change of Station move a smooth one.

The center offers many services to help relocating personnel and family members get settled into their new duty station.

One helpful resource the center has is information. Center employees can get information on any duty station that service members may be going to.

The center has Standard Installation Topic Exchange Service packets, which people can either pick up at the center or review on the center's web site at <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/sites>. These packets list every service available from the time zone to reporting procedures, according to Angela Lyons, Sponsorship Coordinator, Personal Services Center.

One of the center's main focuses is on getting relocation information to incoming personnel.

"They're coming to Okinawa, and they need to know about the installation and about Okinawa," Lyons said. "More and more spouses are coming to Okinawa, and they need to know about employment information. We give them not only information on employment, but we also let them know what services are provided for them and their children."

The center includes information about all of Okinawa and not just what is on the bases.

The center also trains sponsors assigned to assist incoming personnel adjust to life at a new duty station.

"We make sure they know how to be a sponsor and what they need to do," Lyons said, "like ensuring (inbound personnel) have a place to stay when they get here and helping them check in."

Once new personnel get settled in, they can sign up for a class designed to help them get used to living in a foreign country.

The center offers a day-long newcomers' orientation class that basically covers everything the center has to offer and the differences of living on Okinawa as far as shopping and living off base are concerned, according to Lyons.

"We talk about things like separating their trash and shopping on the Internet," she said.

Another service offered for incoming and outgoing service and family members is a chance to check their e-mail.

"We have the services provided for them if they want to come check their e-mail," said Lyons. "We have computers set up at each of the camps; all we ask them to do is make sure they sign in and read the rules, and if they're not in uniform we check their ID card."

A loan locker is also maintained by the center. It allows families to borrow household items that they may be waiting for in their Traffic Management Office shipment.

"We offer them dishes, silverware, pots, pans and baking items, and for those with small children, we offer strollers and car seats," Lyons said. "It's for people who are waiting on their shipment to arrive and those who have already sent theirs off."

No appointment is needed to pick up information during the center's normal working hours, which are 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information about a new duty station, call Angela Lyons at 645-9629/8395 or visit the SITES website at <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/sites>.



PFC DAMIAN MCGEE

Safe flying

Members of the command staff for Marine Corps Air Station Futenma congratulate Col John M. Metterle, Commanding Officer, MCAS Futenma, as he steps off a UC-12F Super King Air after accumulating more than 6,000 mishap-free flight hours. Col Metterle's run of mishap-free flights began Nov. 20, 1975, when he flew a T-34B Mentor. The colonel received an Aviation Safety Award for his accomplishment. As Col Metterle received his award, he commented that "Over all the time I've flown, it's been with someone else assisting me. It is that kind of teamwork that has brought me to this point." Throughout his career Col Metterle has also flown CH-53D Sea Stallions, CH-53E Super Stallions, VH-3D Sea Kings and was the Presidential Aircraft Command Pilot while working with Marine Helicopter Squadron-1, the unit responsible for transporting the president in helicopters.

MGIB changes boost benefits

'Buy up' program adds benefits to MGIB

LCPL KEITH R. MEIKLE
 COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — Service members who enrolled in the Montgomery GI Bill after July 1, 1985, and within their first two weeks of active duty service are now eligible to "buy up" to increase the amount the MGIB is worth.

The buy up program can increase the current monthly MGIB benefit of \$650 per month for full-time students to \$800 per month if service members add the maximum \$600 contribution to their MGIB account.

Contributions less than \$600 are also allowed; however, the benefits will be reduced proportionally. The benefit will increase the MGIB \$1 for 36 months for each additional \$4 added to the account.

Legislation for the program was enacted Nov. 1, 2000, and made effective May 1 as a recruiting and retention incentive.

"With the increasing cost of college, the buy up program makes the Montgomery GI Bill more appealing for recruiting and retention incentives," said Richard Noe, Education Counselor, Marine Corps Base Education Office.

Service members who were on active duty Nov. 1, 2000, but sepa-

rated from the military before May 1 must buy up before July 31, according to Marine Administrative Message 208/01 released April 30. Marines who separate after May 1 must contribute while serving on active duty.

Those interested in adding to their MGIB must complete a Personal Action Request and submit it to their respective consolidated administration shops to fill out a Montgomery GI Bill Act of 1984 Enrollment Form that specifies the authorization to contribute to the buy up program.

A method of payment must then be chosen and sent to the disbursing office. Marines can have an allotment made or make a lump sum deposit in increments of \$4 between \$20 and \$100.

While this program has many benefits, it is not advantageous for every circumstance.

"The program is great for Marines who are only signed up for the Montgomery GI Bill," Noe said. "A Marine who has the Marine Corps College Fund, however, would be paying for benefits he or she will already receive."

For more information, contact the MCB Education Office at 645-3486 or go to www.gibill.va.gov.

"With the increasing cost of college, the buy up program makes the Montgomery GI Bill more appealing for recruiting and retention incentives."

- Richard Noe



PO1 SPIKE CALL

Filling up

An F/A-18D from Marine Fighter Attack Squadron-533 gets fuel from Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron-152. Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron-152 was deployed to Rockhampton, Australia in support of Exercise Tandem Thrust.

'Top-up' adds to flexibility of MGIB

LCPL KEITH R. MEIKLE
 COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — The "top-up" program allows active duty service members to use the Montgomery GI Bill in conjunction with the Tuition Assistance program to pay for college courses that began after Oct. 30, 2000.

The Tuition Assistance program currently pays for 75 percent of tuition costs for college courses. The top-up program allows service members to use the MGIB to pay for the remaining 25 percent.

The amount the top-up program pays can be equal to the total difference between tuition costs and the amount paid by tuition assistance, according to Marine Administrative Message 213/01 released April 25. However, MGIB benefits are reduced by the total amount of top-up benefits received.

"For example, the MGIB benefit is currently worth \$23,400 for a full-time student with at least three years of ac-

tive duty service," according to Marine Administrative Message 213/01 released in April. "If that person receives \$3,000 in top-up benefits for a total of six months, the regular MGIB amount available will be reduced to \$20,400. The member would still have 30 months of top-up entitlements or 36 months of regular MGIB entitlements remaining."

The "top up" program does not affect the number of months service members can use the MGIB; it affects the total amount of money available through the MGIB.

To receive the benefit, interested service members must send a copy of the Tuition Assistance Authorization Form signed by an authorized education officer to the appropriate Regional Education Processing Office. Copies of the authorization form can be obtained from unit or base education offices.

For more information contact the MCB Education Office at 645-3486 or reference www.gibill.va.gov.

New subsistence program available for service members

CPL CHAD SWAIM
 COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — As of May 1, service members who are eligible for food stamps have a new option with the Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance program.

The new program is intended to compensate service members whose family income is below the poverty level.

Eligibility for the new program is based on the number of family members compared to the gross income of a service member's household. It's not limited to any rank and is not necessarily a supplement for food stamps, according to GySgt Ricky Serrano, Pay and Maintenance Staff Noncommissioned Officer, Marine Consolidated Personnel Administration Center.

Service members not receiving and/or not eligible for food stamps may still qualify for FSSA; however, that income may jeopardize a household's participation in assistance programs based on income, such as subsidized school lunch programs, the Women, Infant and Children program, subsidized daycare and earned income

tax credit.

"Members should consider the total benefits from assistance programs before applying for FSSA," GySgt Serrano said. "If a member participates in the food stamp program, FSSA income must be reported to the food stamp office. Receipt of FSSA may reduce or remove eligibility for food stamp benefits."

Qualified service members whose income from food stamps is higher than that which they rate with FSSA will get an extra boost.

"If the FSSA program says you only rate \$200, but you get \$300 worth of food stamps, the FSSA will raise its amount to the same level as the food stamps, and the member can choose whether to receive food stamps or the FSSA," GySgt Serrano said. "I believe that most people are going to want to accept the FSSA monetary compensation because it's liquid income that's going to be received in their pay account, and they can do what they want with it."

However, service members are limited to a \$500 per month cap when using this program, according to GySgt Serrano.

Once every command receives its FSSA coordi-

nator, service members will have a point of contact. If a service member's unit has not yet established a coordinator, he or she can contact the unit's administrative department.

"They need to see that point of contact and take all the documentation indicating what the service member's household gross income is," GySgt Serrano said. "They will look at what your monthly household income is, and they will compare it to the regulated household monetary chart based on the number of people in your household."

The gross income is based on the military member's basic pay, commuted rations, Basic Allowance for Housing or Overseas Housing Allowance, and any income the spouse receives.

From start to finish, service members who apply and qualify for FSSA should start seeing payments within a month.

"The earliest payment that will go out to anyone would be as early as late May or early June," GySgt Serrano said. "This (allowance) is to truly compensate those who are really in need, not those of us who can't effectively manage our money."

For more information on FSSA, service members should contact their administration office.

NJP REPORT

The following are alcohol-related nonjudicial punishments for June 3 - 10.

• Underage drinking

A lance corporal with Marine Aviation Logistic Squadron-12, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, was found guilty at a squadron-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$534 per month for two months, and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

A private first class with Personnel Support Department-17, 1st MAW, was found guilty at a squadron-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-1, forfeiture of \$400 per month for two months, and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

A lance corporal with Headquarters and Service Battalion, 3d Marine Division, was found guilty at a company-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$100 per month for one month, and restriction and extra duties for 14 days.

A private first class with Headquarters and Service Battalion, 3d Force Service Support Group, was found guilty at a company-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$243 per month for one month, and restriction and extra duties for 14 days.

A lance corporal with 3d Materiel Readiness Battalion, 3d FSSG, was found guilty at a company-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$500 per month for two months, and restriction and extra duties for 30 days.

A corporal with Headquarters Battalion, Camp Fuji, was found guilty at a company-level NJP of underage drinking and drunk and disorderly. Punishment: forfeiture of \$283 per month for one month, and restriction and extra duties for 14 days.

COURTS MARTIAL

A lance corporal assigned to Marine Aviation Logistic Squadron-36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, was sentenced to 60 days confinement and reduction to E-1 at a special court-martial on one specification of Article 86, unauthorized absence.

A corporal assigned to Marine Wing Support Squadron-17, 1st MAW, was sentenced to three years confinement, forfeiture of all pay, reduction to E-1 and a dishonorable discharge at a general court-martial on one specification of Article 92, violation of a lawful general order, and Article 120, rape.

A corporal assigned to Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron-1, 1st MAW, was sentenced to 45 days confinement and reduction to E-2 at a special court-martial on one specification of Article 92, violation of a lawful written order, and Article 111, Driving Under the Influence.

A lance corporal assigned to Marine Aircraft Group-36, 1st MAW, was sentenced to nine months confinement, forfeiture of all pay, reduction to E-1 and a bad conduct discharge at a general court-martial on one specification of Article 81, conspiracy, Article 121, larceny, Article 123a, wrongfully/unlawfully make and utter checks, and Article 134, violate U.S.C. title 18, Sect 1344 Bank Fraud.



CPL STEPHEN L. STANDIFIRD

Graduating class

MajGen Wallace C. Gregson, Commanding General, 3d MarDiv and guest speaker at the Marine Corps University Amphibious Warfare School and Command and Staff Distance Education graduation ceremony congratulates Maj Mark Lamczyk, Deputy Camp Commander, Camp Hansen for his completion of the Command and Staff Distance Education course. Maj Lamczyk was one of 107 graduates who completed the courses. The students spend two hours a week in the evenings at seminars and as many as six hours per week studying and preparing for the next seminar. MajGen Gregson spoke in his address commending the graduates for the sacrifices some of them and their families endure to achieve this higher level of education.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Postal Service Center

As the summer months approach, some postal patrons may take a vacation. The Postal Service Center reminds patrons that mail must be picked up from your assigned box at least every 15 days. Mail left in a PSC box for 31 days may be returned to sender. Only members of the immediate family are allowed to use a PSC box.

To prevent this, patrons should contact the PSC and let personnel there know what they want done with their mail while they are away.

Patrons should fill out Temporary Mail Disposition Instructions (DD Form 2258). The form should include who will be allowed to pick up mail while the user is away or a letter stating who is authorized to receive mail. Whoever receives mail for a vacationing patron must also be permitted the use of the Military Postal System.

Pet Travel Update

Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base announced a three-month test initiative. Passenger Travel Offices will be able to book a pet and kennel with a combined weight of up to 150 pounds without requesting a waiver from HQ AMC. The test program will run until Aug. 31. For more information contact the Passenger Travel Office at 645-2948.

School Meal Coupon Refund

Army and Air Force Exchange Service officials on Camp Foster announced parents must return any unused school meal coupons for a refund no later than July 15.

Unused school meal coupons can be returned for refunds at AAFES cashier counters where the meal coupons are normally sold.

Native American tax relief

The Department of Justice has concluded that the Soldiers' Relief Act prohibits states from taxing the military compensation of Native American service members who claim a tribal reservation as their residence.

For more information service members should contact their administration office's finance section.

All-Marine Chess Team

Resumes for the All-Marine Chess Team will be accepted through July 9, according to Marine Administrative Message 257/01. Six Marines will be chosen to compete in the Interservice Chess Competition Aug. 17-24 at Fort Myer, Va.

Resumes should be submitted with the following information: Name (last, first, MI), rank (by title ie captain, sergeant), current duty assignment, email address, military address (organization, unit, state, P.O., APO, and zip code), duty station, duty telephone number (commercial and DSN), USCF rating, date of rating, and record of significant chess activity during the past two years (provide date, place, event, and standing).

Packages must contain command endorsement stating that the Marine will be made available to attend all events if selected, and should be sent through the local Marine Corps Community Services' Semper Fit office for coordination.

Resumes should be forwarded to: Commandant of the Marine Corps (MRS), Attn: Evonne Carawan, 3280 Russell Road, Quantico, Va. 22134, or via fax to commercial 703-784-9822 or DSN 278-9822. Email address: allmarinechess@usmc-mccs.org/.

To submit a brief ...

Send an e-mail to editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil or fax your request to 645-3803. The Okinawa Marine accepts briefs for non-profit organizations and groups only and they are run on a space-available and time-priority basis. Deadline for submitting briefs is noon every Friday and the Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit all submitted material to fit space.

Supporting programs designed to support us



SGTMAJ STEPHEN H. MELLINGER
MARINE FORCES PACIFIC SERGEANT MAJOR

One of today's most important programs for our single Marines and Sailors is the Single Marine & Sailor Program. It's an outstanding program that offers numerous activities for the single Marines and Sailors, E-5 and below, within our commands.

The program is sponsored by Marine Corps Community Services. It is designed to offer our single personnel a myriad of alcohol free, healthy and entertaining choices during liberty call, and at an affordable price. My hat is off to MCCS for providing such a worthwhile program for our singles.

However, as I visit our many bases and stations, I'm concerned that there are not more single Marines and Sailors partaking in the program. And we all know the old saying, "If you don't use it, you'll lose it," does apply.

A lack of desire is not the reason for the lack of participation by our single Marines and Sailors.

I've spoken to many leaders throughout our area of responsibility about their respective SM&SP. They all are quick to assure me that they have an active SM&SP in place.

A problem I find though is that our commands are not really encouraging their singles to participate.

Some of the activities such as golf, for example,

might require our singles to be given a little time off from work. Too often these lance corporals and below are denied time off from work and told by their SNCOs and officers that the command can't afford to have them gone.

This is very interesting since I know those very SNCOs and officers won't think twice about taking a half-day from work to be in a command golf tournament. I guess this means that in those commands it's the lower enlisted that really run things!

Granted, most of SM&SP activities are during off-duty time, but my example clearly demonstrates a lack of commitment and concern by our leaders towards our singles. This mindset needs to change immediately leaders.

We leaders constantly tell our people to be safe over the weekend and to stay out of trouble, but don't enquire as to what they have "planned."

We should be encouraging them to get involved in this program's activities.

There's another concern I have about this great program. It's the actual support, or possible lack there of, from MCCS itself. I know that MCCS is very eager to fully support its activities that bring in a strong profit, but I've observed, over the years, that when some MCCS activities do not make a profit, then they're either dropped entirely or made a low priority.

I do understand basic business (make a profit or go out of business), but I would hope that MCCS sees how very important this program is for our singles. It certainly isn't my place to "preach" to MCCS about how much monetary support this program should be receiving, but I would ask them to contribute an appropriate percentage of funds

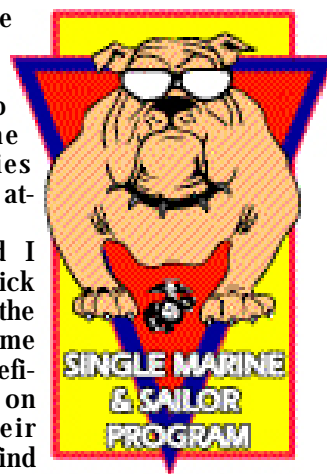
proportionate to the percentage of our single Marines and Sailors. To do so would make the program's activities more affordable and attractive to them.

Every command I visit, leadership is quick to tell me how great the SM&SP is. They tell me the program has a definite, positive effect on the morale of their singles. That said, I find virtually no command senior leadership (except maybe the base/station sergeant major) attend the programs scheduled meetings.

Too many leaders talk the talk, but don't walk the walk of supporting this program. Each command has a SM&SP coordinator and they need reliable feedback from senior leadership to make their program the best it can be.

Leadership could actually have a win, win outcome by getting more involved and supportive of this program. Doing so, leadership just might help cut down the number of their Marines and Sailors making police and medical blotters, which in turn make less headaches for them (leadership). More importantly, it is looking after our Marines' and Sailors' welfare. And that's what leadership is supposed to do.

To all of you Marine and Sailor single E-5's and below, remember that old saying I mentioned earlier, "If you don't use it, you may lose it." Semper Fi.



What Would You Do?

The following examination of leadership issues is not intended to present right or wrong answers. The goal is to provide a forum to encourage leadership discussions of challenging issues. Chaplain responses are designed to provide moral and ethical guidance. Questions, comments or ideas for a future scenario may be submitted to: editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil

Fitness or abuse

Your roommate is a fitness fanatic. He works out at least two hours a day and has subscriptions to half a dozen muscle magazines. He told you that he is training for the body building contest next spring, but he feels that he isn't quite big enough yet.

A couple of weeks ago you noticed a syringe inside his gym bag. You asked him about it and he blew it off saying that it was nothing. As little as you know about bodybuilding, you are pretty sure that syringes aren't part of it.

You want to take your roommate at his word; however, you have noticed him getting markedly bigger and he still has the syringes in his gym bag and a couple of medical-looking bottles.

You really think that your roommate could be using steroids. What do you do?

What the Marines said

Private first class with 1st MAW: Personally, I would sit him down

and ask him man-to-man if he was taking steroids. If he is a man and admits to it, I would do everything in my power to help him before I got other enlisted Marines involved. If my approach doesn't work, then higher ranks would be needed.

Corporal with 1st MAW: First I'd sit down and have a serious talk with him. If that doesn't faze him, I'd talk to my staff noncommissioned officer.

Lance Corporal with MCB: I would notify his chain of command to rectify the situation.

Sergeant with MCB: I would talk to him one-on-one and let him know what I have observed. If he continued to show signs that he was using steroids, I would notify my chain of command and let them handle it.

What the Chaplain said

All of us know that we have zero tolerance to drugs in the U. S. Military Services. We know that if we want to stay in the Marine Corps, or the Navy for that matter, we can't take drugs.

The use of Anabolic Steroids is no different. Steroids are a controlled substance, a drug. And if you are found using steroids, you are subject to prosecution under the Uniformed Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), Chapter 47, Article 112A.

There are many healthy ways to develop muscles, as many other professional athletes do daily basis. As a runner myself I understand that winning a race is a pleasure, but running is often painful. We do not have to take the easy way out to justify our desires and our ego.

So, if I find you doing steroids First, I would have to tell you that you are using drugs. Second, that you need help at once. Third, that if you refuse help I have to report to the Command about your activities.

- Navy LCDR J. Moreno, Chaplain, Camp Courtney



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PO3 David Sheard, Builder, NMCB-4, works his end of a leveling tool used to compact the concrete, while PO3 Andrea Harvey, Builder, NMCB-4, follows by smoothing the compacted concrete.

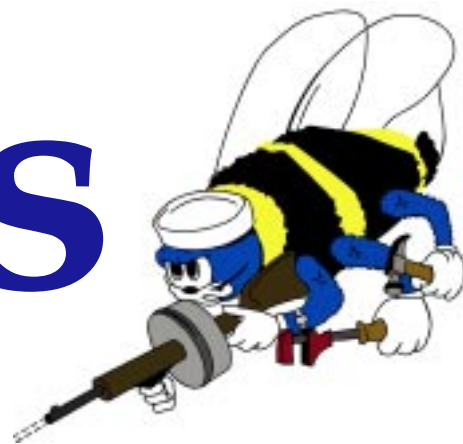
PO3 Apolinar Gloria, Builder, NMCB-4, organizes concrete tiles for a seawall at White Beach.



PO3 Gary Quiett, Builder, Reservist 1st Marine Division, flattens the cement for a platform for the new pier for embarking and debarking ships at White Beach.

Seabees

“We build, we fight”



Story and photos by LCpl Keith R. Meikle

CAMP SHIELDS — The toughest part about serving as a Navy Seabee isn't lugging 80-pound bags of concrete or hours pounding nails under a hot sun. Their deployment schedule is the hardest part of serving in one of the Navy's construction battalions.

“The biggest challenge for most of us is being away from our families,” said PO1 Kenneth R. Meier, Crew Leader, Company C, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion-4, 3d Brigade. “Especially our young guys with wives and kids at home.”

The Seabees have a unique rotation with eight battalions with two homeports in the United States and four deployment locations worldwide. Four battalions are located in Gulf Port, Miss., and deploy to Spain and Guam. The other four battalions are in Port Hueneme, Calif., and rotate to Puerto Rico and Okinawa. The eight battalions rotate every seven months and go from their homeport to a deployment port then back to the homeport and back to the other deployment port.

“It is hard to move around so much, you never can get used to where you are,” said PO3 Karen Grose, Steelworker, Co C, NMCB-4. “But you do get to travel and see the world, so it has its good aspects too.”

The good aspects, for most Seabees is the work they are trained to do.

“Despite being away from home, deployments are our favorite time because we get to do the work we train for seven months at our homeport,” PO1 Meier said.

While at homeport, training is their fo-

cus. The Seabees need the knowledge on the job during deployments.

“Our Seabees have to get as much training in the seven months at homeport so when they come on the job they are prepared to not only do their job, but possibly do someone else's job too,” said CPO Scott Thibodeau, Operations Chief, Co C, NMCB-4.

There are seven jobs assigned to Seabees: builder, electrician, equipment operator, utilityman, construction mechanic, engineer's aid or steelworker. No matter what a Seabee's job is, all share basic knowledge of each other's specialty.

“It is very important for us to keep the Seabees highly knowledgeable about every job in case medical or other problems occur that cause us to not have an electrician on site. We can still run wires and get the job done,” CPO Thibodeau said.

“The fact that the Seabees are cross trained allows us to get by with such low man power on our projects,” PO1 Meier said. “If I had to do this job with ten workers that just knew their rate, it wouldn't get done.”

The Seabees use their training and skills for more than just the construction projects while on deployment. The Seabees also do humanitarian relief work such as Hurricane Andrew in 1992 and other relief projects.

Most importantly, the Seabees spend much of their time out in the field.

“We are kind of half Navy and half Marine because in combat we are the ones building bridges and constructing field

hospitals and any thing else the Marines need built,” CPO Thibodeau said. “But we also have to protect ourselves so we have to be in good shape too.”

Staying in good shape requires a good workout plan. Physical labor for ten hours a day and physical training three mornings a week works out well.

“The regular work day is full of physical labor, pouring concrete, digging by hand and getting dirty,” CPO Thibodeau said. “There is very little that isn't strenuous in our job.”

“The work can get physically challenging, but you get used to the aches,” PO3 Grose said.

Language, culture and construction style can also add to the deployment experience.

“A big challenge for us is getting through the language barrier,” PO1 Meier said. “The Japanese contractors we work with really know what they are doing, but sometimes we need the translators just to make sure we are on the same page.”

While on deployment, the Seabees get a large majority of their supplies from Japanese companies due to lengthy shipping times from the United States. This tends to work to the advantage of the Seabees.

“The Japanese work with high quality materials and are highly skilled in special construction techniques,” CPO Thibodeau said. “They are teaching us how to build Kenchi sea wall.”

The knowledge gained on deployments helps the Seabees during homeport training and gives them the experience to build anything to support Navy and Marine Corps missions.

PO3 Andrea Harvey, Builder, NMCB-4, 3rd Brigade, smooths the concrete where the Seabees are laying a platform for embarking and debarking Marines at White Beach.



Detachment 215, Belton, Mo., that Marines will use when White Beach.





LCpl Jose Bernao, TOW Gunner, Headquarters Company, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd MarDiv, Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, operates the TOW2 System during a recent exercise with 1st Stinger Battery from MCAS Futenma at Exercise Tandem Thrust 2001.

Avengers take aim from ground level

LCPL KENNETH L. HINSON
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

SHOALWATER BAY, Australia — The 1st Stinger Battery from Marine Corps Air Station Futenma on Okinawa, Japan, teamed up with the 3d Marine Regiment's Ground Combat Element for a recent field exercise during the Tandem Thrust/ Freedom Banner deployment here.

The exercise provided the two units an opportunity to train together, which is not possible on Okinawa because of limited space.

"This is such a great opportunity for us to train with the GCE because we never get that chance on Okinawa," said Cpl Bradley D. Strohl, Stinger Gunner, 1st Stinger Battery, Marine Air Control Group-18, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. "With all the technology we have out here in the field, we need more opportunities like this exercise to train together."

The mission of the stinger battery during the exercise was to provide air defense for the Air Combat Element, GCE and tank convoys, which consisted of Assault Amphibian Vehicles, Light Armored Vehicles and Humvees.

To accomplish the mission, the battery used four TWQ-1 Avenger vehicles and five Portable Air Defense teams. The TWQ-1 vehicles are highly mobile and can fire eight infrared heat-seeking stinger missiles in less than 40 seconds. The avenger also has an MP-3 .50-caliber machine gun installed in case of missile failure. The MP-3 can fire more than 1,100 rounds per minute.



The TWQ-1 Avenger can fire up to eight heat-seeking missiles in less than 40 seconds.

The PAD teams operate from Humvees and a stinger gunner shoots missiles from a shoulder-mounted cannon. The PAD team can carry up to eight missiles.

"It's good to have the capability of air defense that we have in the Marine Corps," said LCpl David L. Christensen, Assistant Gunner, 1st Stinger Battery. "This ensures we can get the job done when we are called into combat."

A team of two Marines operates each Avenger. A stinger gunner operates and fires the heat-seeking missiles while an assistant gunner drives the vehicle. The gunner uses radar to scan and locate aircraft. "The job I have is an important one because if I

miss a target, the Marines suffer because of my mistake," Cpl Strohl said. "I have to pay close attention to the radar and my equipment to make sure the enemy doesn't crossover into friendly territory."

The assistant gunner is trained to drive away when a missile is fired so enemy cannot track the position of the vehicle. The assistant gunner can also replace the gunner if he becomes a casualty.

The Avenger can be operated by remote control up to 50 meters away and can be deployed with any unit.

Planning was a vital part of making the exercise a success, according to Cpl Strohl.

Planning included cleaning weapons and vehicles, extra training and classes about stinger operations. The unit also studied various types of aircraft while on Okinawa and trained on air defense simulators.

"Training is an important part of our mission because we are the last means of defense against aircraft for the Marine Corps," said Sgt Andrew H. Gardner, Stinger Gunner, 1st Stinger Battery. "We are always ready for this type of exercise because our training never stops."

For some of the Marines in 1st Stinger Battery, this was their first operation in the field. The unit wants to use this opportunity for good training of the younger Marines, according to Sgt Gardner.

"Hopefully they can get the big picture of what we are capable of," Sgt Gardner said. "We will now return to Marine Corps Air Station Futenma with field training and knowledge about combat."

Fuel farm pumps up Tandem Thrust

LCPL KENNETH L. HINSON
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

GLADSTONE, Australia — The fuel farm provides diesel and JP-5 fuel for government vehicles and equipment here during the Tandem Thrust/Free-dom Banner 2001 deployment.

Marines from Bulk Fuel Company, 9th Engineer Support Battalion on Camp Hansen, Okinawa, Japan, now assigned to Combat Service Support Detachment-73, Brigade Service Support Group-3, 3d Marine Expeditionary Brigade, work together to receive, store, transfer and dispense fuel to the camp, including the Rockhampton and Shoalwater Bay training areas.

"Our mission is to provide fuel services to the Marine Expeditionary Brigade and all equipment that operates with diesel or JP-5 fuel," said Sgt Bo L. Miller, Tank Farm Noncommissioned Officer in Charge, CSSD-73. "It's important because you can't accomplish much in a field environment without the use of fuel."

The fuel is dispensed using a 600 gallon-per-minute pump operated by a generator. More than 750 gallons of fuel is used each day by vehicles and equipment here.

It takes two Marines to fill fuel tanks on vehicles and generators. One Marine operates the nozzle while the other operates the pump. This is to ensure the pump will be shut off immediately

in case of a fuel leakage or spillage.

Because the unit works with such a great amount of fuel, safety and keeping the environment safe are important issues to the unit.

"Safety and the environment are a major concern of ours in the field," said WO Dominique J.E. Davis, Bulk Fuel Officer, CSSD-73. "We have a mission, and practicing safety helps us accomplish it. Our unit is trained to react in case of any emergency that might occur."

In order to be ready for an emergency, the unit practices weekly safety drills ranging from busted fuel lines to ruptured bags.

"We never announce when a scenario will take place," Sgt Miller said. "This allows the Marines the chance to know what to do in case it is as actual emergency. Working around this amount of fuel is not the place to wait until the last minute to prepare."

During the exercise, the unit has had the opportunity to practice transporting and storing fuel from a Maritime Prepositioned Ship. The fuel off the ship will sustain a deployment with fuel for up to 30 days.

"We're looking forward to the MPS off-load because it will give us a chance to draw fuel from a tanker and store it here," Sgt Miller said. "This will teach us to handle and transport fuel to support the mission."

In addition to storing and dispensing fuel, the unit uses a 5-ton mobile



LCpl Daniel R. Rempe, Bulk Fuel Specialist, Bulk Fuel Company, 9th ESB, 3rd FSSG, operates a diesel fuel pump at the fuel farm in Camp Gladstone, Australia.

fuel vehicle, which carries six containers of fuel, to refill all the electrical generators around the camp twice daily. These include generators for the utilities, showers, tents and offices.

"Keeping electricity going for the Marines is important at all times," said LCpl Daniel R. Rempe, Bulk Fuel Specialist, CSSD-73. "They depend on us to ensure they have electricity in order to complete their mission."

For the Marines in the unit, the deployment is an opportunity to receive training for future assignments.

"The unit is receiving good training because it is learning to move and dispense fuel for an entire camp during a deployment," WO Davis said. "The knowledge (the Marines) are receiving will help them in the future to teach fellow Marines how to operate a fuel farm."

Comedic humor brings Marine closer to his future, new career

PFC DAMIAN MCGEE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP HANSEN — Victor Borge, a world-renowned musician and comedian, once said that laughter is the shortest distance between two people. For one Marine, laughter is helping him get close to crowds of people.

Sgt Clay Miles has only been doing stand-up comedy for a year now, but in his mind, this is a career that has always been lurking somewhere in the shadows.

"I was always a class clown," Sgt Miles said. "People used to always say that I was going to be a comedian or that I needed to be a comedian, but I never took them seriously."

Sgt Miles didn't begin taking them seriously until approximately a year ago. Instead of simply believing what people said, he was forced to take the recommendations of others seriously.

"I was in MOS school and I briefly mentioned to SrA Eric Sanchez that I had considered being a comic," Sgt Miles said. "After he found that out, he basically made it his mission to get me on stage."

SrA Sanchez worked very quickly and was successful in his mission. Sgt Miles soon had his first job.

"My first job was a country bar," Sgt Miles said. "Needless to say, being a black man, I was a little nervous about that one. They didn't laugh at everything, but they laughed at a few things."

It was this experience that confirmed for Sgt Miles that he could actually follow through with his dream.

According to Sgt Miles, if this was the worst it was going to get, then he could handle comedy. What Sgt Miles didn't know was that he had not seen the low

point of his new comedy career.

The low point would not come until he began trying his skills here in Okinawa.

"I did a show at the Sauce out in town," Sgt Miles said. "That was the closest I ever came to quitting."

Sgt Miles' despair didn't come due to a lack of laughter. Instead it was his own personal feelings after the show that caused his doubts.

"I had never wanted to quit," Sgt Miles said. "But that night I really considered it. I had people laugh at some of my jokes, but when I got off the stage I realized that I had no fun."

While this period was difficult for Sgt Miles, it was a point that brought him to where to where he is today.

That show made him take time to really reflect on what he was doing. He was forced to decide if this career was what he was supposed to be.

"Looking back, I feel like God was testing me," Sgt Miles said. "He was making me decide how bad I wanted this. He took me to my ultimate low and didn't show me the rewards that would come for it in the future ... I had a tough decision to make."

He took the necessary time to consider his options and made the choice to continue pursuing his career. In pursuing his career, Sgt Miles began to take a much more serious approach to his comedy. He studied various comics. He read books about them.

As he studied comics, Miles began to learn their style and their purpose when they're on stage and in front of a crowd.

It was during this time that Sgt Miles figured out that he had the exact mindset it took to succeed in comedy.

"I'm not afraid to fail," Sgt Miles said. "I never look at it as failing. I look at it as training. In many ways it's

like my career in the Marine Corps. Everything I encounter is considered training."

During his time of learning, Sgt Miles has picked up certain styles in collecting his material. He carries a notepad and pen with him everywhere he goes. He constantly looks around. He always notices people. Most importantly, he's already trying new material.

"In my shop, most of the people are supportive and relaxed," Sgt Miles said, who serves as an intelligence imagery interpreter. "Since I know that, I always find myself trying to slide in new material throughout the day just to see what the reaction will be."

Sgt Miles is proud that he uses only new material and refuses to steal material from other comics.

"It's hard not to do," Sgt Miles admits. "I know so much old stuff and know people wouldn't recognize it, but I try to focus on the future. I want to make a name for myself because of what I come up with."

Sgt Miles also has a unique way of perfecting his routine. In addition to slipping in his material during conversation, Sgt Miles has a microphone set up in his room that he uses to practice with on a regular basis.

"I practice everything down to hand gestures," Sgt Miles said. "There isn't anything I don't practice and work on before I get on stage. I even set up a camera and watch myself after I do a performance."

Sgt Miles is looking forward to the future and to the affect he can hopefully have on the lives of those people he encounters.

"When people leave my shows I want them to see me as someone who is a friend," Sgt Miles said. "I know God put me here to deliver a message. If comedy is the way I'm supposed to do it, then that's what I'm going to do."



PFC DAMIAN MCGEE

Led by George Novinger, the Okinawa International Chorus is a mixture of Okinawan and American singers brought together to better the relationship between the Americans and their host nation.

Cultures unite through song

PFC DAMIAN MCGEE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — The Okinawa International Chorus held its second annual concert at the chapel here June 2.

The chorus is a group of about 30 American and Okinawan singers who come together in an effort to bring other Americans and Okinawans together.

"This choir's goal is to increase positive interactions between American and Okinawan military and non military residents of the island," said George Novinger, Administrative and Consular Chief at the American Consulate General on Okinawa and founder of the chorus.

While those in attendance came for the music, some commented on the meaning of the concert and the chorus.

"This was one of the best events I've been to in a long time," said Melissa Guillory, a U.S. family member. "The best part was the fact that there were Americans and Okinawans there all enjoying the same music."

During the show, the chorus performed classical pieces, traditional Okinawan songs, Japanese and American folk songs, spirituals, gospel music, jazz and show tunes and included a barbershop quartet.

The choir began a year ago in anticipation of the 2000 Group of Eight Summit held on Okinawa. The choir originally performed songs representing all



PFC DAMIAN MCGEE

George Novinger leads a mixture of Okinawan and American singers in the Okinawa International Chorus at the Camp Foster Chapel. The choir performed a variety of musical pieces for the audience.

the countries attending the summit. Since then the chorus has continued to practice and perfect its skills.

The chorus is now in the process of preparing for Christmas concerts that it hopes it will be able to perform this year. Possible locations are unknown now, but the choir hopes to travel to various nursing homes and hospitals to visit people who are unable to get out.

Although the choir has been together for more than a year, its members are always looking for more people to participate.

"This choir is for anyone who wants to join," Novinger said. "It's like a sports team, and I don't like to 'cut' anyone."

The choir does not have a membership fee and practices every Monday evening. For more information on the choir, call George Novinger at 935-2559.

LF CARAT extends hands of friendship to local community

LF CARAT STAFF

JAKARTA, Indonesia — Hands come in all shapes, sizes and colors. Some are callused and rugged, while others are soft and well manicured. Some hands specialize in carpentry and mechanics, while others push pencils, work on computers and balance the numbers.

The hands of the Marines and Sailors of Landing Force Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training 2001 have many sizes, shapes and jobs. However, all these hands recently joined together to extend one common hand of friendship and goodwill through one of many projects scheduled during the CARAT deployment.

Thirty-five United States Marines and Sailors embarked aboard the *USS Rushmore* (LSD 47) recently worked to make a difference in a small school located in Kali Baru, just outside Jakarta, surrounded by homes and

businesses.

"This is a great way for us to build relationships and get involved in the local communities," said Navy LT Diedrick A. Graham, Chaplain, Landing Force CARAT. "I had no problem getting Marines to volunteer on their day off to help with this project. This is a great project with a great group of volunteers to see it through."

LT Graham is responsible for recruiting the volunteers, making supplies available and working with the Indonesian Navy to find and coordinate the needed assistance. During the two-day period, the Marines, working with members of the Indonesian Navy, removed the desks and chairs, washed and painted the walls, and set the school back up for classes.

Along with refurbishing the building, the service members distributed toys, dolls, hygiene products and cracker packets to the children and adults who came to watch the excitement.

The items were donated by Project Handclasp out of San Diego and various churches on Okinawa, Japan.

"The Marine Corps has taught me discipline, respect and how to be a better person to myself and others; this just fits perfect with what I believe," said PFC Juan Goicopadron, a Combat Service Support Element Marine from 3d Force Service Support Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

PFC Goicopadron went on to answer questions with local residents and media representatives about what it's like to be Marine, life aboard ship, and his excitement about participating in this project.

"Being involved in this type of project, giving back to the people who most need it, makes you realize how fortunate we, as Americans, are," said the 20-year-old. "Being able to help is a feeling that you really cannot ap-

preciate unless it is you doing the participating. Just being involved with the local children, putting a smile on their faces, makes you feel good."

The seventh annual CARAT exercise is part of a series of bilateral training exercises between the U.S. and six Southeast Asian countries, in which Marines and Sailors train with the military forces of Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, the Philippines and Brunei.

The Indonesian phase of CARAT 2001 is an annual series of humanitarian efforts and disaster relief simulations conducted with the Indonesian Navy and Marine Corps. The visit successfully increased cooperation and reinforced trust between the armed forces of the United States and Indonesia. But most of all, it proved immensely beneficial by building friendships and understanding of each other's culture and military capabilities.

Marines meet for fun, games

LCPL KEITH R. MEIKLE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base recently held the H&S Bn, MCB Field Meet to give the Marines time to bond and increase camaraderie.

The Marines competed in the pull-up contest, crunch contest, stretcher carry, fireman carry, wheelbarrow race, three-legged race, aardvark race, dizzy izzy relay race, tug-of-war and an egg toss.

"As a battalion, we are so spread out," said GySgt Scott Pile, Company B Gunnery Sergeant, H&S Bn. "We don't always have the opportunity to get together. This gives us a building block for camaraderie within the battalion."

The Marines agreed that it was good to get out and meet Marines from other sections they do not see all the time.

"It is great to come out here and see people you don't see every day," said LCpl Farah Brizard, Cable Constructor, H&S Bn. "It is fun and relaxing to get a day out of the office too."

In addition to the games and camaraderie, some Marines simply enjoyed watching each other participate in the events.

"Watching the sergeant major do the dizzy izzy relay race was hilarious," said PFC Michael Plank, Network Engineer, H&S Bn. "It was really good to see the sergeant major participating in the events alongside his Marines."

Organizers said this camaraderie will improve operational efficiency.

"Getting together and working on our camaraderie will allow us to serve III MEF better by having increased unit cohesion," GySgt Pile said.



LCPL KEITH R. MEIKLE

LCpl Jerrid Lamontagne, Brig Guard, Camp Hanson Provost Marshals Office, uses all his strength to get his chin above the bar during the pull-up challenge.

Field meet brings out competitive spirit, boosts morale

CPL CHAD SWAIM
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP SCHWAB — The Marines of 9th Engineer Support Battalion on Camp Hansen had a field meet here May 25.

The field meet featured a full day of activities at Oura Wan beach to recognize the hard work the Marines of 9th ESB completed during the last year and kicked off with an unusual soccer game.

The soccer game was different than most that occur during a battalion field meet because while one team represented 9th ESB, the other represented the Combat Assault Battalion.

"Marines should do this more often," said SgtMaj Douglas Vasquez, 9th ESB. "I think units should be pitted against each other like this because the whole battalion is behind the team."

The game got off to a late start due to a problem with the goals, but the problem was soon remedied and CAB didn't waste much time before scoring



CPL CHAD SWAIM

PFCs Robert Shelton, left and Richard Maston, both Combat Engineers, Co A, 9th ESB take advantage of the free water activities provided during the field meet.

the first goal. Before the end of the first half, CAB followed with its second and last goal of the day. At the end of the first half, CAB was sitting pretty with a 2-0 lead.

After a long halftime break, 9th ESB came back strong to score two more

goals. The game ended with a stalemate score of 2-2.

"We were better than them," said LCpl Carly Batuy, Combat Engineer, 9th ESB. "They were good, but we should have taken them. It definitely should not have been a tie."

After the game, CAB had liberty call and 9th ESB went on to Oura Wan Beach here to carryout the rest of its field meet.

At the beach the 9th ESB Marines had free use of all of the services the beach offers.

The unit's funds paid for personal watercraft, kayaks, snorkeling gear, water bikes and sailboats, according to SgtMaj Vasquez. No money came out of the Marine's pockets.

While there were several volleyball nets and horseshoe pits set up, many of the Marines took advantage of the waterborne activities.

"I was just out having a good time in the water," LCpl Batuy said. "I snorkeled, kayaked and went on the boat. I pretty much did everything that was out there."

During the field meet, Marines from different sections got to meet one another during the day's activities.

"I just got here on island," LCpl Batuy said. "I met a lot of new people today. I had a lot of fun out here."



Patrons to the Four Seasons restaurant use chopsticks to get the full affect of dinning at an Okinawan restaurant. Steak is precut for the customer into chopstick friendly pieces.

Four Seasons

A FLAVOR FOR THE WHOLE YEAR

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LCPL JOSH P. VIERELA
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

OKINAWA CITY — Located in the alley across from the Sun City Mall on Gate 2 Street outside Kadena Air Base, the Four Seasons Steak House provides a relaxing atmosphere with low lighting, soft instrumental music and great food.

Whether patrons prefer steak, seafood or a combination of the two, Four Seasons has a staff of qualified and entertaining chefs to prepare meals at the table.

The restaurant, which was opened in 1972, offers a variety of appetizers, including crisp cheese sticks, beef sashimi, sautéed mushrooms, sautéed mussels in flames, escargot, spring rolls, Mediterranean seafood salad, shrimp cocktail supreme and Romiromi salmon. Appetizers range in price from ¥450 to ¥900.

All meals come with steamed rice or garlic bread, a creamy soup of the day, vegetables and a small salad with dressing.

This casual restaurant has an all-star cast of top-grade tenderloin and sirloin steak prepared the way patrons want it.

Tenderloins range from the small 5-ounce steak for ¥1,650 to the large 10-ounce cut for ¥2,500. Sirloins include the 8-ounce U.S. sirloin for ¥2,500 and the famous 7-ounce kobe sirloin for ¥3,900 that melts in the mouth. Flavored with garlic, all steaks are cut into chopstick friendly strips and served with a steak sauce.

"The steak at the Four Seasons is incredible," said Miguel A. Pantelakis. "The only down side is that it is expensive, but it's worth it."

If the ocean is more appealing, patrons may enjoy a good portion of succulent teppanyaki shrimp with vegetables. In addition, the Four Seasons has prawn and sweet, tender lobster available to please the pallet.

Those who can't make up their minds between seafood and steak can have both. With a combination of shrimp, prawn or lobster half, one can also get an 8-ounce U.S. sirloin steak or a 7-ounce kobe steak. Prices for the seafood and steak combos range from ¥3,600 to ¥5,000.

For additional surf and turf combinations, patrons can match seafood selection with their choice of tenderloin cuts ranging from ¥2,800 to ¥3,700.

For ¥3,500, customers can have the Four Seasons Dinner that includes romiromi salmon or shrimp cocktail supreme, small tenderloin and half a lobster, and Okinawa lime sherbet for dessert.

The menu is a bit pricey for some selections, but the food is worth it, according to Sonoko Tokuyama, Cashier, Four Seasons.

"Everyone who I see enjoys their meal, especially the kobe steak," Tokuyama said.

The restaurant's fresh products are imported from around the world ensuring excellent taste, according to Keishi Toyama, Manager, Four Seasons.

"We always hear compliments on our good performances and the good taste of our meals," said



All meals at the Four Seasons come with soup, salad, bread or rice and vegetables.



Before they give customers the whole steak, Chefs at the Four Seasons restaurant give customers a piece of meat to let them test and see if it is satisfactory.

Toyama. "We want foreign customers to experience Japanese food, satisfaction and excitement."

Located just off Gate 2 Street with a second restaurant in Chatan town, Four Seasons offers friendly Okinawan service and outstanding cuisine. The Four Seasons accepts yen or dollars and is open for lunch at 11:30 a.m. and for dinner from 3 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.



AUTOMOBILES/MOTORCYCLES

1991 Toyota Corsa — JCI April 02, \$1,900 OBO. Eric, 637-4396.
1987 Toyota Master Ace Surf — JCI Sept 02, \$1,000 OBO. 646-5964.
1988 Mitsubishi Pajero — JCI May 03, \$2,500. 645-0792/933-6414.
1988 Nissan Sylva — JCI Dec 01, \$1,200 OBO. 936-3175.
1987 Mitsubishi Charlot — JCI Nov 01, \$800 OBO. 646-2987.
1991 Honda Vigor — JCI July 02, \$2,800 OBO. 645-3344/646-6356.
1992 Toyota Carina — JCI June 03, \$1,000. 623-5383.
1989 Toyota Hilux Surf 4X4 — JCI July 02, \$3,500. 622-6936.
1991 Toyota Vista — JCI Dec 02, \$2,500 OBO. **1988 Toyota Vista** — JCI Feb 03, \$1,000 OBO. 646-8445.
1991 Mitsubishi Pajero — JCI July 02, \$4,500 OBO. 632-3073.
1991 Honda Ascot — JCI May 02, \$1,879 OBO. **1988 Nissan Laurel** — JCI April 02, \$872.50 OBO. 633-0490.
1989 Mazda Capella — JCI April 02, \$700 OBO. 633-0116/7855.
1989 Nissan Skyline — JCI March 03, \$1,500. 622-9244/6384.
1994 Nissan Lucino — JCI Nov 01, \$2,500. 965-2175.
1991 Toyota Starlett — JCI June 02, \$900. 622-8100.
1994 Mazda Cronos — JCI Aug 02, \$3,299. Greg, 633-8459.
1991 Honda Ascot — JCI Aug 02, \$900. **1988 Mercedes 190E** — JCI Nov 01, \$2,500. Wayne or Ginny, 646-8253.
1989 Toyota Carina ED — JCI Oct 02, \$500 OBO. Moses, 637-3451.
1990 Toyota ED — JCI June 03, \$1,375. 622-8608.
1989 Honda Prelude — JCI Aug 02, \$1,500 OBO. Sean, 645-5660.
1989 Toyota Corona — JCI Dec 01, \$1,500. 622-8228.
1987 Nissan Largo — JCI Aug 02, \$1,900. **1989 Toyota Vista** — JCI May 02, \$1,200. 622-8791.
1991 Toyota Sera — JCI Sept 02, \$2,500 OBO. 646-8717.

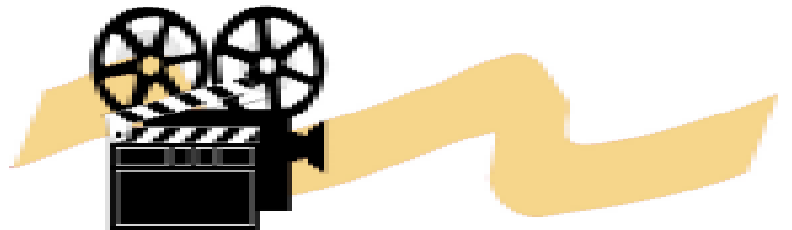


MISCELLANEOUS

Chain-Link Fence — 100 feet, \$600.
Free puppies — 9-week-old pit bull mix puppies. Collins, 622-6889.
Misc. — four 17-inch triple chrome rim tires, \$1,700 OBO; Nissan Skyline rear spoiler, \$40; Toyota rear spoiler, \$40; High Performance steering wheel, \$60; chrome muffler for Honda Accord, \$150; Sony 600-watt 4-channel amplifier, \$200; Kenwood 600-watt 2-channel amplifier, \$200; Kenwood and Sherwood radios, \$100; 375-watt bass tube, \$150 OBO; one Farad (digital) capacitor, \$150. 637-4097 or 090-9785-5108.
Misc. — 12X14 light beige carpet, \$25; 5-tier storage shelves, \$10 each. 622-5416.
Misc. — Sociology in a Changing World, 5th edition, \$35; Japanese draperies, sage green with mauve flowers, \$20 each; Cosco white toddler bed with mattress, \$30. Melissa, 632-3577.
Misc. — Wildlife Encyclopedia, 21 books, \$25; movie bookcase, \$25; bi-level desk/table, \$20; dehumidifier, \$50; lawn mower, \$50; Vaio comp. with accessories \$50 OBO. 646-5964.
BCD's — 2 Tusa/Imprex, L/XL and XS/S with integrated weights, \$100 each. 637-2598.
Wanted — King-size bedframe/headboard. Good condition and reasonably priced. 645-4450 or 636-3498.
Dehumidifier — \$50. 643-7093 or 646-6021.

Ads appearing in the Okinawa Marine do so as a free service to active duty military, their dependents and DoD employees. Ads are restricted to personal property or service of incidental exchange. Ads run on a space-available basis and must be resubmitted each week. The deadline for ads is noon, Fridays, space permitting. The Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit ads to fit available space. Please include your name and the phone number you wish published. The Okinawa Marine makes every effort to ensure accuracy, but assumes no responsibility for services offered in ads. Submit ads by faxing to 645-3803, Mon.-Fri., or send an e-mail to editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil

Coming to a theater near you ...



Feature programs and start times are subject to change without notice. **Call theaters in advance to confirm showtimes.** Second evening movies will vary when the program runs longer than 120 minutes.

Schwab (625-2333)

Fri Just Visiting (PG13); 7:00
Sat The Wedding Planner (PG13); 6:00
Sat Exit Wounds (R); 9:00
Sun The Wedding Planner (PG13); 3:00
Sun Exit Wounds (R); 6:00
Mon What's the Worst That Could Happen? (PG13); 7:00
Tue What's the Worst That Could Happen? (PG13); 7:00
Wed Closed
Thu Heartbreakers (PG13); 7:00

Hansen (623-4564)

Fri Shrek (PG); 6:00, 9:00
Sat Shrek (PG); 6:00, 9:00
Sun Heartbreakers (PG13); 2:00, 5:30
Mon The Brothers (R); 7:00
Tue The Brothers (R); 7:00
Wed Tomcats (R); 7:00
Thu Tomcats (R); 7:00

Courtney (622-9616)

Fri What's the Worst That Could Happen? (PG13); 7:00
Sat Exit Wounds (R); 7:00

Sun Exit Wounds (R); 7:00
Mon Closed
Tue Closed
Wed Shrek (PG); 1:00
Wed Just Visiting (PG13); 7:00
Thu Closed

Keystone (634-1869)

Fri The Wedding Planner (PG13); 5:30
Fri Exit Wounds (R); 9:30
Sat Recess: School's Out (G); 1:00
Sat What's the Worst That Could Happen? (PG13); 5:30
Sat The Brothers (R); 9:30
Sun Pokemon 3 (G); 2:00
Sun What's the Worst That Could Happen? (PG13); 5:30
Sun The Brothers (R); 9:30
Mon Heartbreakers (PG13); 7:00
Tue The Brothers (R); 7:00
Wed The Brothers (R); 7:00
Thu Tomcats (R); 7:00

Butler (645-3465)

Fri Pearl Harbor (PG13); 7:00, 10:00
Sat Heartbreakers (PG13); 1:00, 4:00
Sat Pearl Harbor (PG13);

Sun 7:00, 10:00
Sun Heartbreakers (PG13); 1:00, 4:00
Sun Pearl Harbor (PG13); 7:00
Mon The Brothers (R); 7:00
Tue The Brothers (R); 7:00
Wed Tomcats (R); 7:00
Thu What's the Worst That Could Happen? (PG13); 7:00

Futenma (636-3890)

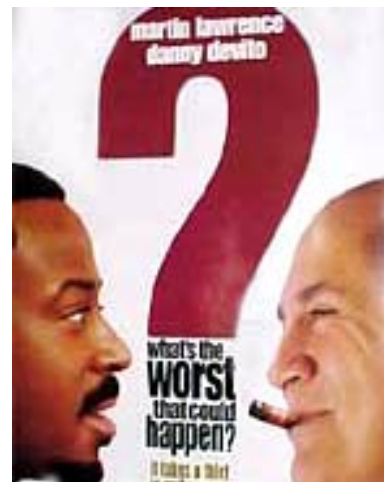
Fri The Mexican (R); 7:30
Sat The Wedding Planner (PG13); 6:00
Sun Just Visiting (PG13); 6:00
Mon Shrek (PG); 7:30
Tue Closed
Wed Pearl Harbor (PG13); 7:30
Thu Closed

Kinser (637-2177)

Fri Exit Wounds (R); 7:00
Sat Heartbreakers (PG13); 3:00
Sat Tomcats (R); 7:00, 11:30
Sun The Brothers (R); 7:00
Mon Closed
Tue Heartbreakers (PG13); 7:00
Wed What's the Worst That Could Happen? (PG13); 7:00
Thu Tomcats (R); 7:00



Check Schwab, Hansen, Keystone, Butler and Kinser Theaters for show times.



Check Schwab, Courtney, Keystone, Butler and Kinser Theaters for show times.



Check Hansen, Keystone and Butler Theaters for show times.

Expires: 22 June 2001

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